

Material change inspection report

6 May 2026

Reigate Grammar School

Reigate Road

Reigate

RH2 0QS

The Independent Schools Inspectorate is appointed by the Department for Education to inspect association independent schools in England. Our inspections report on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards and other applicable regulatory requirements are met, collectively referred to in this report as 'the Standards'.

Inspection outcome

The school has requested a material change to its registration to increase the total number of pupils attending the senior school from 1560 to 1660. The school's leadership wishes to accommodate additional classrooms and a new sports hall on the senior school site.

The school is likely to meet the relevant independent school Standards if the material change is implemented. It is recommended that the material change be approved.

Inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

ISSR paragraphs 7(a), 7(b), 11, 12, 14 and 16

1. Leaders actively promote pupils' wellbeing. Leaders responsible for safeguarding hold senior leadership positions and receive regular and suitable training in order to fulfil their responsibilities effectively. They ensure that staff know safeguarding policies well and implement them effectively. They liaise effectively with external safeguarding agencies, including the local authority and children's services, when required.
2. Leaders ensure staff receive regular and suitable safeguarding training, including at induction. Staff take appropriate action to mitigate risks, including those relating to online safety and the risks posed by radicalisation and extremism. They identify safeguarding issues and report concerns regarding pupils in their care promptly. Pupils can report any concerns they might have to a trusted member of staff. Staff respond promptly and effectively.
3. Leaders take effective action to meet the requirements regarding mobile phone use in schools. Pupils are clear about the potential risks associated with online activity due to the helpful guidance they receive in information and communication technology (ICT) and personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE) lessons. Leaders implement appropriate filtering and monitoring of the school's internet.
4. Governors receive suitable safeguarding training and ensure that leaders undertake regular reviews of safeguarding arrangements. The governor with responsibility for safeguarding regularly meets with pupils and staff to evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements, including recruitment procedures. Governors and leaders provide rigorous oversight of the single central record (SCR) of appointments. They undertake regular checks to ensure all entries are completed accurately and in a timely manner. Governors audit safeguarding procedures each year and review the safeguarding policy annually.
5. Governors ensure that the school complies with relevant health and safety legislation by drawing up and implementing rigorously a suitable health and safety policy. Leaders regularly undertake suitable checks and record them systematically. They identify any health and safety concerns promptly and take suitable action to address them.
6. The school meets the requirements of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Governors ensure that an appropriately qualified external professional conducts a fire risk assessment of the school site. Leaders implement any recommendations promptly. Leaders ensure that fire safety equipment is properly maintained and that regular fire drills are carried out and recorded. As a result of these drills, pupils and staff know how to respond to any emergencies.

7. Leaders deploy staff effectively to ensure appropriate supervision of pupils during both on- and off-site activities. Leaders have suitable plans to maintain effective supervision of the proposed increased number of pupils.
8. Leaders ensure that an appropriate risk assessment policy is implemented effectively. Suitably trained staff identify and mitigate risks to pupils on the school premises or when undertaking off-site activities. Staff take appropriate account of pupils who have additional needs when drawing up risk assessments.
9. The school is likely to continue to meet the Standards if the material change is implemented.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

ISSR paragraphs 18, 19, 20 and 21

10. Leaders implement effectively an appropriate safer recruitment policy. They ensure that the required pre-employment checks are undertaken before any adults begin work at the school. They record these checks accurately on a suitable single central record of appointments (SCR).
11. The school is likely to continue to meet the Standards if the material change is implemented.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

ISSR paragraphs 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29

12. Leaders maintain the premises and accommodation to a standard commensurate with health and safety requirements. They maintain comprehensive records of staff training and conduct regular inspection checks. Leaders address any maintenance issues promptly and effectively. They provide suitable toilet, changing and showering facilities and appropriate accommodation for pupils' medical and therapy needs. Leaders ensure that the acoustics, lighting and water provision are appropriate. They ensure pupils can access suitable outdoor space for physical education and play. Leaders' planned site development ensures that facilities will be provided to meet the needs of the proposed increase in pupil numbers. Leaders have included suitable provision for disabled pupils and separate facilities for staff and visitors in the new buildings.
13. The school is likely to continue to meet the Standards if the material change is implemented.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

14. Leaders publish particulars of the arrangements for safeguarding, which meet statutory requirements, on the school's website.
15. The school is likely to continue to meet the Standards if the material change is implemented.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraph 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c)

16. Senior leaders, supported by governors, manage safeguarding and welfare arrangements effectively. They monitor the school's arrangements rigorously to ensure the Standards are met and all provision meets statutory requirements. Governors scrutinise policies prepared by school leaders and regularly visit the school to evaluate the effectiveness of their implementation.

17. Leaders have planned effectively for the increase in pupil numbers. A detailed risk management plan has been developed to enable leaders to identify and mitigate potential risks.
18. The school is likely to continue to meet the Standards if the material change is implemented.

School details

Schools	Reigate Grammar School
Department for Education number	936/6531
Registered charity number	1081898
Address	Reigate Grammar School Reigate Road Reigate Surrey RH2 0QS
Phone number	01737 222231
Email address	info@reigategrammar.org
Website	www.reigategrammar.org
Proprietor	The Governors of Reigate Grammar School
Chair	Mr Mark Elsey
Headteacher	Mr Shaun Fenton OBE
Age range	11 to 18
Number of pupils	1196
Date of previous inspection	3 to 5 February 2026

Information about the school

19. Reigate Grammar School is a co-educational day school located in Reigate, Surrey. It was founded in 1675. In 2003, Reigate St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School became the preparatory school of Reigate Grammar School. The two schools run as a single charitable trust, administered by the one board of governors. Reigate St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School is inspected separately from Reigate Grammar School.
20. The school has identified 260 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. No pupils in the school have an education, health and care plan.
21. The school has identified 88 pupils for whom English is an additional language.
22. The school states that its aim is to provide an exceptional education that enables every pupil to thrive in and beyond the classroom, academically, emotionally and socially.

Purpose of the material change inspection

Inspectors carried out this inspection following an application made by the school to the Department for Education to make a material change to the school's provision. The purpose of the inspection is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about whether the school is likely to meet the Independent School Standards if the material change is implemented.

Inspection details

Inspection date

6 May 2026

23. Two reporting inspectors visited the school for one day.

24. Inspection activities included:

- scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
- tour of the school site to inspect the premises and accommodation
- discussions with the governors
- discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
- discussions with pupils

How are association independent schools in England inspected?

- The Department for Education is the regulator for independent schools in England.
- ISI is approved by the Secretary of State for Education to inspect independent schools in England, which are members of associations in membership of the Independent Schools Council.
- ISI inspections report to the Department for Education on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards, the EYFS statutory framework requirements, the National Minimum Standards for boarding schools and any other relevant Standards are met.
- For more information, please visit **www.isi.net**.

Independent Schools Inspectorate

CAP House, 9-12 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9HA

For more information, please visit isi.net